

The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

NEW SERIES No. 1204. 月廿九日五十二緒光

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1899.

大拜禮

號六月五英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS
PER ANNUM.

Banks.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.
ESTABLISHED 1880.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....Yen 12,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....10,500,000
RESERVE FUND.....7,300,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies.

KOBE NEW YORK
LONDON LYONS
SAN FRANCISCO HONOLULU
BOMBAY SHANGHAI

LONDON BANKERS
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LTD.
PARIS BANK, LTD.
THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, LTD.

HONGKONG AGENCY:—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.
per Annum on the Daily Balance.
On fixed deposits, for 12 months at 5 per cent.

6 " 4 "
3 " 3 "
S. CHOI,
Agent.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1899. [182]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,
LIMITED.

Authorised Capital.....£1,000,000
Paid up Capital.....£ 324,374

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.
Board of Directors:

E. Burnie, Esq. | D. Gillies, Esq.
Chan Kit Shan, Esq. | Kwan Ho Chuen, Esq.
Chow Tung Shang, Esq. | J. T. Lauts, Esq.

Chief Manager.

GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months Fixed.....5.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1898. [8]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$10,000,000

RESERVE FUND.....\$10,000,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
R. M. GRAY, Esq., Chairman.
N. A. SIERS, Esq., Deputy Chairman.
E. Gutz, Esq.

A. Haupt, Esq. | A. J. Raymond, Esq.
R. H. Hill, Esq. | P. Sachse, Esq.
The Hon. J. Keswick | E. Shellin, Esq.
A. McConachie, Esq. | R. Shewan, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGERS:

Shanghai—J. P. WADE GARDNER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.
per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 months, 2½ per cent. per Annum.
For 6 months 3½ per cent. per Annum.

For 12 months, 4 per cent. per Annum.
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 3rd May, 1899. [9]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted
by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be
obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER
CENT. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option
balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND
SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED
DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1895. [10]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP.....£800,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-

HOLDERS.....£800,000

RESERVE FUND.....£150,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT
ACCOUNT at the rate of 2 per cent. per
annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months... 4 per cent.

6 " 3½ "

3 " 2½ "

T. H. WHITEHEAD,

Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 24th May, 1898. [31]

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE
OF THE 12TH NOVEMBER, 1896.

Shanghai Taels.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....5,000,000

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....2,500,000

Head Office—SHANGHAI.

Branches and Agencies:

CANTON HANKOW
CHEFOO PEKING
CHINKIANG SWATOW
FOOCHOW TIENSIN.

THE Bank purchases and receives for col-
lection Bills of Exchange drawn on the
above places, and sells Drafts and Telegraphic
Transfers payable at its Branches and Agen-
cies.

HONGKONG BRANCH.

Advances made on approved securities.

Bills discounted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

3 per cent. on Fixed Deposits for 3 months.

4 " 2½ "

5 " 3½ "

E. W. RUTTER,

Acting Manager.

Hongkong, 1st October, 1898. [127]

Intimations.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	CAPTAINS	TO SAIL	REMARKS
SHANGHAI	Chusan	E. Street	About 12th May	Freight or Passage.
LONDON, &c.	Coromandel	C. C. Talbot	Soon, 13th May	Freight or Passage.
JAPAN	Rehilla	S. de B. Lockyer, R.N.R.	4 P.M., 13th May	Freight or Passage.
LONDON	Candia	W. H. Haughton, R.N.R.	About 17th May	Freight only.

*Passing through the Inland Sea. [19]

For Further Particulars apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 31st May, 1899. [15]

JUBILEE PILSENER BEER

PER CASE OF 4 DOZ. QUARTS

OR

6 DOZ. PINTS \$13.00.

SOLE AGENTS,

H. PRICE & CO.,
12, QUEEN'S ROAD.

BITTERS.

Angostura (Siegers)

Bokers

Peach Bitters

Amer d'Or (Luxardo)

Danvita

Orange

C. O. Q. (Cocktail bitters)

Pomeranzen (phials)

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

15, Queen's Road,

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1899. [15]

BOARD
AND
HONGKONG HOTEL.

RESIDENCE.

On Monthly Terms from 1st May, 1899.

THE CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED.

No. 5-B, BUND, YOKOHAMA.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL Centrally situated; well furnished and supplied with excellent Cuisine and Good Wines.

The Company's Steam-launch attends the arrival and departure of all Mail Steamers.

Special attention paid to the Comfort of Visitors.

E. V. SIOEN, Manager.

Yokohama, 1st October, 1897. [36]

W. POWELL & CO.

Ex. S.S. "SHANGHAI".

NEW STOCK OF LADIES

TRIMMED & UNTRIMMED MILLINERY.

NEW FLOWERS FEATHERS LACES RIBBONS &c. &c.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1899. [17]

Intimations.

UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL AGENCY, LIMITED.

SOLE AGENTS IN

HONGKONG, CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS,

FOR THE

UNITED ASBESTOS CO., LTD., LONDON,

CONTRACTORS TO H.M. GOVERNMENT.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

Best Qualities of ASBESTOS GOODS and PACKINGS.

HYDRAULIC and SELF LUBRICATING GUM PACKINGS of all kinds.

"VICTOR" METALLIC BEEF JOINTS.

ASBESTOS SALAMANDER HOILER COVERS & COMPOSITION of the best qualities.

ESTIMATES given for every DESCRIPTION of WORK.

SUPERINTENDENT.....DOUDWELL & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

27] DODWELL & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

PEAK HOTEL

AND

CRAIGIEBURN.

THE PEAK HOTEL is situated at VICTORY GAP, adjoining the TRAMWAY TERMINUS, 1,430 feet above sea Level.

CRAIGIEBURN is situated at PLUNKETT'S GAP, five minutes walk from the PEAK HOTEL.

Fine Healthy location, variety of beautiful scenery. Cool Southerly breezes in Summer with perfect protection against the North East Winds in Winter.

Well appointed rooms, attentive service and excellent Cuisine.

GEO. J. CASANOVA,

Manager.

CITY OFFICE, 7, Duddell Street.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1899. [28]

IMMUNITY

FROM

INFECTION.

A DEMAND HAS BEEN PRESENTED FOR

'ESSETS' FLUID

To-day's
Advertisements.

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

We having relinquished the Agency of the above Line, Messrs. McGREGOR BROS. & CO. will from this Date conduct the business connected therewith.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.

In reference to the above Notice we have from this Date taken over the Agency at this port of the "GLEN" steamers.

MCGREGOR BROS. & CO.,

Hongkong, 6th May, 1899.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Brisbane to celebrate the jubilee of the arrival of Dr. Lang's immigrant ships in Moreton Bay.

A CHINAMAN was fined \$5 at the Magistracy this morning for wasting water. To touch John Chinaman's pocket is the most effectual way of making him be more careful in the future regarding this most necessary liquid, especially at this time of pending water famine.

A PRIVATE letter from a large locomotive concern in the United States conveys the information that the Russian and Chinese governments have placed large orders with locomotive works in that country.

At the Magistracy this morning Mr. Sieconde Smith, declared the lower portions of No. 21 and 23 Lascar Lane to be unfit for human habitation, until such time as better arrangements were made for light and ventilation.

THE latest news of the Eiffel Tower is that in view of the approaching Exhibition it has been decided to paint the tower a graduated yellow, beginning at the base with a bright orange and shaded off towards the summit to a brilliant gold. At night the tower will be illuminated by 8000 electric lamps.

WE learn that H.M.S. "Victorious" was successfully docked at Yokosuka yesterday. We mentioned in a previous issue that the vessel had to be very considerably lightened, even the midshipmen's chests being sent ashore. A middy's chest does not strike one as being a very big item among the weighty articles carried by a battle-ship, but they weigh a ton, on an average, and every little helps.

THE new bridge opposite the end of Chappo Road across the Southow Creek at Shanghai is practically completed and will be opened to traffic directly the approach roads are made up. The bridge is built of hard wood, with wrought iron railings, is 273 feet in length between the abutments and 40 feet in width, the main piles being 35 feet in length. For the convenience of the vehicular traffic the gradient of the bridge itself, in contradistinction to the other bridges across the creek, has been kept as gentle as possible. The installed approaches on the Hongkong side are only temporary and they will be considerably improved in the near future. It is expected that this bridge will relieve the Garden Bridge of a great deal of heavy traffic. The work has been carried out by Lee Tai Shih, under the superintendence of the Municipal Engineers' Department, at a cost of Tls. 22,000.

THE "Steam Post" says that on the 17th February, a Chinese named Hui Yew Chien deposited Tlals. 2,000 in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and obtained a receipt book. Thieves entered his house at Kock Summum on the 19th April, and carried away the box containing his cash, Bank notes and deposit book. He gave notice of this robbery to Mr. Wong Hang Chow, the Cashier of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and asked him to inform him if anybody presented his deposit book for drawing the money. The other afternoon at 4.30 p.m. a Chinese presented the deposit book at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and demanded a bill of exchange on Hongkong as he was going there shortly. The Cashier recognised the deposit book, at once asked the man to wait some time and sent for the real depositor who came with a policeman and arrested the culprit.

MESSRS. BENJAMIN, Kelly and Potts, in their weekly share-report state: Since our last circular business has been fairly brisk and several stocks show an appreciable advance, notably Hongkong and Shanghai Banks; Hongkong and Whampoa Docks; and Hongkong Hotels; whilst other shares show a firm tendency. The Oliver's Freehold Mines Limited, have given notice that a call of \$1 per share has been made in respect of the "B" shares and is payable on the 5th July next. Banks, Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, have been in strong demand and have been placed at advancing rates up to 250 per cent premium. The London quotation has risen to £39. National have been done at \$22. Marine Insurances, Yangtzees are quoted at \$114 as the dividend or \$6 paid on the 26th April. North China have bought Tls. 180 as the dividend of Tls. \$0.34 paid on the 26th April. Fire Insurances, Hongkong, Fire have charged hands at \$205 and \$207. China have been done in small lots at \$81 and \$82. Shipping, Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats, have been placed to a fair extent at \$29. Indo-Chinas have charged hands to a considerable extent at \$61, \$60, \$59 and \$58 and close with a few shares offering at the latter rate. China and Manilas are wanted at \$75. Douglas Steamship have been done at \$55, and are now not obtainable under \$56. Star Ferries are shade easier and can be had at \$14. Remittances, China Sugars have improved their position and have been done at \$169. Luzons have been bought at \$10 and \$5. Mining, Punjungs have been in some demand and after sales at \$71 have been sold at \$71. A telegram from the Mine states that "The Mill ran 24 days, crushing 2,200 tons, yielding 146 ounces of smelted gold. Prospects are encouraging." Cambodians have experienced a sharp rise, and have been placed at \$160, \$170 and \$175. Queen Minis have been sold at \$21 cents. Jelebis have been negotiated at \$10. Raubs are steady and have buyers at \$38. Great Eastern and Caledonians have improved their position and have been done at \$3.30, \$3.60, \$3.70, \$4 and \$4.10. Docks, Wharves and Godowns, Hongkong, and Whampoa Docks, continue in demand and shares have been taken off the market at 335 and 340 per cent premium, the market closing steady at the latter rate. Kowloon Wharf shares have been placed at \$86 and \$86. Lands-Hotels and Buildings, Hongkong Lands have hardened and sales have been made at \$80, \$80 and \$81. Kowloon Lands are enquired for at \$24. Hongkong Hotels have, owing to a general demand, advanced to \$85 with no shares changing hands. Humphry's Estate have been sold at \$0.20, \$0.25 and \$0.30, closing steady at the latter rate. China Privyents have been done at \$9.90 and \$10, and close quiet at \$9.75. Cotton Mills, There is no business to report in stocks under this heading. Miscellaneous, Green Island Cements have ruled, steady with small sales and buyers at \$2.41. A. S. Watsons have been done at \$1.50. Electrics are a shade easier and are obtainable at \$1.12. Fenwicks are wanted at \$3. Ices have been sold at \$1.2.

NOTIFICATION.



A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

IMPORTERS OF HIGH-CLASS

BRANDIES.

A.—Hennessy's Old Pale, Red
Capsule - - - - - \$18.00

B.—Superior Very Old Cognac
Red Capsule - - - - - 21.00

C.—Very Old Liqueur Cognac 24.00

V.O.—D.—Hennessy's Finest
Very Old Liquors Cognac,
1872 Vintage, Red Cap-
sule - - - - - 36.00

V.V.O.—E.—Finest Very Old
Liqueur Cognac, 1862
Vintage - - - - - 18.00

All our Brandy is guaranteed to be
pure COGNAC, the difference in price
being merely a question of age
and vintage.

Smaller quantities and sample
bottles will be supplied at proportionate
wholesale rates.

We guarantee our Wines and Spirits

to be genuine only when bought

direct from us in the Colony or from

our authorised Agents at the Coast

Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., Limited,
QUEEN'S ROAD, CAPE TOWN.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1899.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

LONDON, May 4th.

The New York Herald now states that the news concerning the session of Luang Prabang to France is denied but that negotiations to settle pending difficulties are proceeding in Paris and M. Doumer has been instructed to push matters.

THE SUDAN.

Ibrahim Ali, Lord Kitchener's envoy to the Sultan of Darfur, found on his arrival that the latter had been dethroned. The usurper raged Ibrahim Ali's escort of 150 men killing 120 of them. The survivors have returned to Omdurman.

THE COTTON CRISIS.

The Cotton crisis has ended by the men accepting an advance of 2d instead of the 10d demanded.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Observatory report says:—On the 6th at 11.55 a.m. the barometer has risen on the E. coast of China, and is little changed on the S. coast. Pressure is highest over N.E. China, with moderate gradients for N.E. winds on the coast. FORECAST:—Moderate E. winds; cloudy, some showers.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Two Chinese boatmen were fined \$5 each for not having a light during the night.

A HEAVY gale was experienced at Sydney on the 5th ulto, and a good deal of damage was done.

AN Irish seaman on the U. S. S. "Charleston" was this morning sentenced to 7 days h.l. for being drunk in a public place.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME COURT.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

Before His Hon. W. M. Goodman (Acting Chief Justice), with Commander W. C. H. Hastings, R.N. (retired) as Assessor.

May 6th.

CLAIM AGAINST A BRITISH WARSHIP.

Wong Tai Choy, owner of a Kyang Loong Tai junk, brought an action against Captain G. A. Callaghan, R.N., H.M.S. "Hermione," to recover \$800 for damages sustained by collision.

Mr. Slade, instructed by Messrs. Johns, a Stokey and Master, appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Robinson, instructed by Mr. Dennis, for defendant.

Evidence for the defence was given.

Lieutenant Davidson, officer of the watch on the "Hermione" on the evening of the sixth March, said the night was fine but dark and the sea was smooth. He first became aware that the junk was near by seeing a small light 30 or 40 feet on the starboard bow. He gave the order to port and immediately afterwards gave the order to starboard, and then called out "Full speed astern both engines." This order was executed but had practically no effect. The "Hermione" prior to the collision. The effect of the collision was that the junk capsized and passed to the starboard of the "Hermione." Every effort was made to save the lives of those on the junk, the "Hermione" standing by for half an hour. Not more than ten seconds elapsed between his sighting the junk and the impact.

"Witness was cross-examined at considerable length by Mr. Slade.

The hearing was further adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.

THE LAUNDRY QUESTION.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph."

DEAR SIR.—I noted with great interest your reference in last night's issue to the manner in which the foreign community of Yokohama had managed to overcome the washerman nuisance and to put an end to the wily Japanese. Could not, you suggest, a steam laundry be started in Hongkong? Of course there would be considerable opposition offered by the Chinese washermen, and they would do all in their power to make such an undertaking a failure, but I do not see why such an enterprise should not succeed under able management. Although a certain amount of supervision is now exercised over the laundries of the Colony, still, where our clothes are handled by Chinese, under Chinese supervision there is always a certain amount of danger from infection. There is also the trouble that the washermen give to take into consideration. They ruin our clothes and frequently lose them, and remunerations are useless, while if you cut the washerman for a loss he leaves you and, as a rule, you do not benefit by the change. Cannot some enterprising person be found to take the matter up and so relieve us from the burden of annoyance occasioned by the Chinese washermen?

Truly yours,

LAUNDRY.

Hongkong, May 6th, 1899.

THE ROAD ROLLER.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph."

DEAR SIR.—I noticed some time ago in your columns that the P.W.D. had at last become possessed of a steam road roller. Is this a fact, or were you poking fun at the Works Department? I have never seen the steam roller at work and have failed to find anyone who has, though I have been told that it has been sent to the hinterland to stamp out the rebellion. They are still using the granite rollers, so far as I can see, and I am pining for a sight of the P.W.D.'s new toy.

Could you get me a ticket for a private view?

UNROLLED.

Hongkong, May 6th, 1899.

A BUSTED FLUSH.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph."

DEAR SIR.—May I be permitted a small corner in which to strive to complete the apparently neglected education of your musical critic. He wishes to know what a busted flush is. Well, I should have thought that such an expression was almost a household word in poker-playing Hongkong. I have heard that some of our judges are surprisingly innocent where sporting terms are concerned, and that they have been heard to ask in mild surprise for an explanation of a term such as euchre, but I had no idea that such an expression was so common a household word in poker-playing Hongkong. I have heard that some of our judges are surprisingly innocent where sporting terms are concerned, and that they have been heard to ask in mild surprise for an explanation of a term such as euchre, but I had no idea that such an expression was so common a household word in poker-playing Hongkong. 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I have heard that some of our judges are surprisingly innocent where sporting terms are concerned, and that they

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.

JUSTICE IN SINGAPORE.

A STRONG INDICTMENT.

Nearly every theatre-goer in Hongkong, we suppose, saw "The Sign of the Cross," whilst the drama was being played here. It has been produced in Shanghai since, and has evidently made an impression, according to press notices. We give below the critique of the "Shanghai Daily Press," which, we think, will meet the views of many who say the play here.

Every part of the Lyceum Theatre was crowded on Saturday night when Messrs. Dallas and Musgrave's dramatic company made their first bow to a Shanghai audience, and produced the much-debated religious drama, "The Sign of the Cross." From the rising of the curtain until its fall at the end of the fourth act the huge audience followed the fortunes of the leading characters with an interest that is quite unusual in Shanghai and at the close of each scene the "Stars" were called before the footlights and vigorously applauded. Making all due allowance for a first night coupled with the fact that the company had only arrived in the city a few days previously the production was a good one and creditable to all concerned.

Written by Wilson Barrett some two years ago "The Sign of the Cross" is a drama which owes its popularity throughout the English-speaking world more to the storm of discussion it has aroused than to any value it possesses as an historical play. Religious people especially have furiously debated the right of the stage to go to Christianity on subjects and themes with which to entertain the million, and so widespread has the discussion become that those who oppose the play have since bitterly regretted their open hostility since its only fruit has been to popularise "The Sign of the Cross" and to advertise it in a way no dramatic production has secured for the past half century. It is unnecessary to give a sketch of the plot which underlies "The Sign of the Cross" for the majority of the people, even of Shanghai, have for some time been familiar with the fortunes of Marcus, the lovesick prefect of Rome, who, loving the Christian girl Lucia, moves heaven and earth in vain, to save her from the fiendish plot of the infamous Nero that all Christians in his capital should die.

In the end Marcus too becomes a follower of Christus the Nazarene and walks with his loved one into the den of beasts, where presumably both are devoured. Briefly, the drama, which follows closely the book of the same name consists of four acts of blood, thunder, lust and virtue. Unlike the usual melodrama, virtue is not rewarded, in this world nor is vice knocked out within view of the audience. The virtuous people in the long cast are all slaughtered before the curtain falls, while the villains such as Nero, Tigellinus and Lucius continue their lives of sin. Historically, and we hope our statement will be taken as truth and not debated in the columns of the paper—the drama is as full of flaws as the proverbial sieve is of holes. Nero was not nearly so black as he is painted by Wilson Barrett, the early Christians did not sing modern hymns, and although they were persecuted, they were not the models of propriety and virtue that the author would have us believe. The most glaring fault of the drama however is its title. "The Sign of the Cross" runs through the thing and we are told that the "tree of the triple branch" was not only the symbol of those early Christians, but that it was tattooed on their arms. Now as a matter of fact the cross was not used as a symbol of Christianity until five centuries later when Mahomed arose and devastated Eastern Europe. The Koran worshippers took the present for their symbol, and the Christians of Europe followed by adopting the cross as typical of the crucifixion of Christ, and their belief in his divinity. A large amount of license must, of course be allowed to a dramatist, but in writing a play claimed to be historical it is inexcusable.

In such a lengthy cast, it must of course be that some of the characters are faulty and some of the defectors even ludicrous, but on the whole the company on Saturday night acquitted themselves well. Commencing with the ladies the part of Mericia the beautiful Christian girl was taken by Miss Madge Grey. Although by no means an Ada Ferrar, or a Maid Jeffries Miss Grey acquitted herself very well in a most difficult role and at times, particularly in the last scene she showed great dramatic talent. As Berenice the lovely Patriarch, Miss Barbara Fenn was all that could be desired. She seemed to thoroughly realise "that hell holds no fury like a woman scorned" and succeeded in thoroughly ingratiating herself with the audience. In the small part of Poppaea, Empress of Rome, Miss Bertha Hunter had little to do, but she did that little well, while Miss F. Stanley as the boy Stephanus although a trifle too large, and certainly too old for such a youthful part got through creditably. Miss Rosalie Blair as Jacina acted fairly well, but the less said about the other ladies the better. As Ancaria Miss Florence Daniele attempted to sing a song in the third scene of the third act, and she failed in her attempt. The song was a poor imitation of the crucifixion of Christ, and their belief in his divinity. A large amount of license must, of course be allowed to a dramatist, but in writing a play claimed to be historical it is inexcusable.

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The defendant said he did not object to the bills, only to the chits, which were expensive.

In answer to the defendant, his Honour said that he would be very sorry to lay it down that liquor chits supplied to guests at hotels should be disallowed. Those supplied purely in public-houses were frequently disallowed, but never hotel chits.

Evidence was also given by the ex-steward at the Occidental Hotel, and the case was adjourned *sine die* to suit the convenience of the parties.—*Kate Chronicle*.

PATRIOTIC AMERICAN SOLDIERS.

On board the O. & O. steamer *Doric*, which arrived here yesterday says the *Argus* of 28th April, from San Francisco, are two ex-soldiers of the United States Army, Charles Stedding, who has been in the 5th U.S. Infantries in Cuba, which he left on expiration of service March 12th, and Stewart Price, who was attached to the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, better known as Roosevelt's roughriders, are the men referred to.

Arriving in the United States they tried to join one of the regiments ordered to the Philippines, but, fortunately or unfortunately for them, these regiments had been recruited to their full strength. They had money and were not deterred. They were determined to be a cool calculating villain of the Scarpia stamp, handsome and devilish, not old and badly dressed, and certainly not a coward. Mr. B. Eerell gave a fair pourtrayal of the monster Nero, but here again his idea of the part and ours is very different. Nero certainly was a wreck; he even had, paradoxically, the heart, it is even—possible that he had palsy—but he—certainly—not suffering from Delirium. Tremens when he ordered Christians to be tied to posts, smacked with oil and tallow, and staked under the chins so that he could watch them dying when the torch was applied. Mr. J. L. Hall as Licinius, the villainous Adelie was passable, while as Gladys Mr. D. Munro scored a decided hit, and was the success of the evening. Among the other numerous male characters no one stood out prominently, but nearly all knew their parts well and, for that blessing, the audience should be thankful. As Fabius Mr. Norman Roberts dropped his H. a. most unpardonable offence, even in an early Christian, but admitting this fault he did justice to a difficult part."

INSURANCE COMPANIES UNDER THE NEW TREATIES.

It is stated that a regulation will shortly be issued by the Agricultural and Commercial Department in regard to the control of foreign insurance offices in Japan after the new treaties come into force. By this regulation any foreign insurance company carrying on business in the empire of Japan must appoint an individual or a committee to represent it in this country, having full authority to decide all matters relating to the company, exactly as if the head office were established in Japan. Any company having more than one branch or agency in Japan shall appoint one as its representative, which shall take rank as the head office, and all the others will be regarded as branches or agencies.

THE BELGIAN DEMAND ON CHINA.

A Brussels dispatch of the 27th ult. states that in the Chamber of Deputies the previous week the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. de Faverau, confirming the reports that Belgium had asked for a concession at Hankow, China said that no international complications were feared in connection with the request, pointing out that the Belgium-Chinese Treaty of 1865 authorised Belgium to construct buildings in China and empowered China to name the most convenient territory for the Belgian Settlement.

SETTLERS RUSHING TO THE PACIFIC COAST.

PORTLAND (Or.) March 25th. Every train which arrives over the Oregon Railway and Navigation, Northern Pacific and Great Northern roads brings hundreds of people who have taken advantage of the low rates from St. Paul to the Pacific Coast. Many of the visitors are seeking farming lands in the Northwest and in California, while others have been attracted by the new mining discoveries in the Northwest.

Eighty-two Michigan men who arrived here yesterday left over the Southern Pacific this evening for Sission, Cal., where they will engage in lumbering. Another party of 100 from Michigan arrived to day and seventy-five of them will go to California. A large party from Missouri and other Middle Western states left by the Northern Pacific to day for the north; some of them going to Mount Vernon, Wash., where a co-operative colony has been located. Others of the same party were bound for New Whidbey, Wash.

Day by day, there is now being perpetrated in the police-courts of this Colony an injustice so great, a hardship so acute, that it is sufficient to condemn this Colony in the sight of God and man. Consider once more, what this means to the colonie. He has worked for years in the tropics, hoping to save money to return to his family in China; and, since the industry or idle colonie fails to achieve these savings, the man being prosecuted for importing yet is the man who has been laborious, thrifty, and self-denying. This is the man whom we are robbing. Think again what it means to the man. The whole system of life they have laboriously built up for themselves, the happiness to their country that they have been contemplating for years, is shattered at one blow. They are robbed and thrown penniless on a strange town. Can one imagine the despair, the rage, the bitterness of sorrow that must possess the hearts of these men?—Can one be surprised if our injustice should drive one or more of them to destroy himself? The thing, in a word, is one of the most scandalous that has ever been perpetrated in the name of justice. It is a black and bitter crime. It is a form of robbery so comprehensive, so destructive, and so bitter to the heart of the man who is robbed that it is almost impossible to find words to adequately describe it. The man who has it in his power to stop in one moment this scandalous hardship, this gross and wicked crime against justice, is the Governor of the Straits Settlements. He has it in his power to stop these prosecutions by writing a minute paper. If he fail to use that power, he shall answer at the throne of the God of Justice.

A QUESTION OF HOTEL CHITS.

AN INTERESTING POINT.

In H.B.M.'s Court on April 26th before Mr. Hall, Mrs. D'Arcy, ex-proprietress of the Occidental Hotel, Kobe, sued S. Reich for the sum of £17, the amount due on certain hotel bills and chits incurred by Mr. Beauchamp, for which the defendant had previously held him responsible. Mr. Brushfield, appeared for the plaintiff.

Mrs. D'Arcy said she was the proprietress of the Occidental Hotel until the time it was closed, and knew the defendant. She knew a Mr. Beauchamp who had stayed at the hotel, and she had had a conversation with defendant about him. Defendant had then promised that he would pay Mr. Beauchamp's hotel bills, and since then the bills had been made out in defendant's name, and he had paid them up to three months ago, from which time she had only received £100 on account. The bills were paid by cheque, and were for board and chits. At the beginning of March she sent in the bill produced for the February accounts. The bill was not paid, and was sent again in about March 8th. She went to Mr. Reich's office on February 15th and threatened she would go to the Consul and defendant came to her in her office same time in March and paid her £100 on account. She was not quite sure whether defendant had the bill with him at the time, but she made out another bill and gave it to him, acknowledging the £100 received on account.

The defendant said he did not object to the bills, only to the chits, which were expensive.

In answer to the defendant, his Honour said that he would be very sorry to lay it down that liquor chits supplied to guests at hotels should be disallowed. Those supplied purely in public-houses were frequently disallowed, but never hotel chits.

Evidence was also given by the ex-steward at the Occidental Hotel, and the case was adjourned *sine die* to suit the convenience of the parties.—*Kate Chronicle*.

NOT ANDA.

CALENDAR.

MAY.

Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1893.

Barometer	29.867
Thermometer	76.2
Humidity	84.0
Rainfall	15.9

TO-DAY.

WEATHER REPORT.	On date at 10 a.m.	On date at 4 p.m.
Barometer	29.89	29.80
Thermometer	78	78
Humidity	80	81
Rainfall	—	—

TO-MORROW.

Saturday, 6th May, 1899.

Chinese—27th of 3rd moon of 25th year of Kuang-hsi.

Sun-Rises	6hr. 6min.
Sets	5hr. 55min.

High water—Morning 7hr. 30min.

Afternoon 7hr. 30min.

Low water—Morning 9hr. 30min.

Afternoon 9hr. 30min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1874—Attack on Mr. Wood at the British Legation, Tokio.

1882—Phoenix Park murders.

1892—Peking-Fushan collision in the Yangtze.

1897—Pharsalia captured by the Turks.

TO-MORROW.

Sunday, 7th May, 1899.

Chinese—28th of 3rd moon of 25th year of Kuang-hsi.

Sun-Rises	6hr. 6min.
Sets	5hr. 55min.

High water—Morning 7hr. 30min.

Afternoon 7hr. 30min.

Low water—Morning 9hr. 30min.

Afternoon 9hr. 30min.

CHURCH SERVICES.

St. John's Cathedral:—Communion, 7 a.m., Matins, 11 a.m., Evensong, 5.45 p.m.

Roman Catholic Cathedral:—Mass at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9.30 a.m., Benediction, 5 p.m.

Union Church:—Services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

German Bethesda Chapel, West Point:—Morning Service, 11 a.m.

St. Francis' Church, Wan-chai:—Mass, 7 a.m., 6 a.m. (Port), 7.30 a.m., Benediction, 5 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road:—Morning Service (English), 9 a.m.

St. Anthony's Chapel, West Point:—Mass, 8 a.m.

Wesleyan Methodist Church:—Services, 10.30 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.

St. Peter's Seamen's Church:—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

MAILS DUE.

French (Lyon) to-morrow.

Canadian (Empress of Japan) 8th inst.

American (Nippon Maru) 11th inst.

American (City of Rio de Janeiro) 18th inst.

American (Coptic) 25th inst.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s steamer *Empress of India* left Yokohama for Vancouver yesterday afternoon, the 3rd instant.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Nikko Maru* "Bombay Line" left Singapore for this port yesterday, the 5th, and is expected to arrive here on the 11th instant.

THE Agents, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., inform us that the Company's steamer *Indra* from New York and Straits, left Singapore for this port this morning, the

Notices.

NISSON YUSEN KAISHA.

(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.)



PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
SAGAMI MARU	{ VLADIVOSTOK, VIA SWALLOW; AMOY, SHANGHAI, CHENG, CHI	THURSDAY, 11th May, at 4 P.M.
J. Nagao	MULPO AND NAGASAKI	
MIKE MARU	KOBE and YOKOHAMA	SATURDAY, 13th May, at 4 P.M.

YAMAGUCHI MARU { HOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE and COLOMBO, Noon.

For further information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings &c, apply at the Company's Local Branch Office at No. 7, Praya Central.

A. S. MIHARA,
Manager.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1899.

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SOLE AGENTS.

Hongkong, 9th December, 1898.

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&c., &c., &c.,

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Hongkong, 14th May, 1899.

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Hongkong, 11th September, 1898.

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ETC.,BACON,
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WITH THE Utmost Success.

Hongkong, 23rd April, 1899.

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